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—This Week—

	Page.
On the Wing	2
Problems	2
Temperance Teaching	4
Preaching for the Times	4
Prayer and the Holy Spirit	5
Recollections of Presbytery Memphis	6
"Is it Right" Again	6
The Real Attitude of the Roman Catholic Church on the Divorce Question	7
What the Assembly's Committee Has Done for Texas	14
Woman's Conference at Montreat	22

Editorial Notes

There is just a possibility at least that you may sometimes be mistaken in information or judgment. Let that possibility be an ever recognized factor in your opinions and conclusions. As to things it will make you wiser. As to men it will make you more charitable.

The Laymen's Movement is, in Canada, where it has had marvelous success, a movement for missions, both foreign and home. In the Baptist and Methodist Churches in the United States it is for missions again, both home and foreign. How comes it that in the Presbyterian Church it is confined in its scope to the foreign side of the work?

New Orleans Presbytery will hereafter conduct its Home Mission Work through the General Assembly's Committee, preserving its autonomy in the work, and receiving and disbursing all funds through the Presbyterial Committee's treasurer as heretofore. The Assembly's Committee will appropriate to the Presbytery's work every dollar which the Presbytery's churches give and in addition thereto a large percentage on the amount sent in.

An English preacher returns, after a five years' pastorate in this country, to his native land. In comparing conditions here and there he has something to say of religious journalism. He speaks most favorably of the church papers of this country. His most notable comment upon them is that they give recognition, in

acceptance of contributions and in mention, to more of the average ministers, while over there the papers have the same names to appear year after year, and "the same men in rotation get their usual pat on the back." Diffuse style and narrow views are among the other features of English journalism which he criticises.

"The Census of Religious Bodies" is a bulletin issued last week by the Census Bureau at Washington. It reports a church membership in the United States of thirty-three millions, 43.1 per cent being male and 56.9 per cent female. The church members were 39.1 per cent of the total population, an increase over former report. Other features of the report show that there were a billion and a quarter dollars invested in church edifices and that every day eight new churches send their spires skyward.

The circular salutation and address of Dr. Wm. E. Boggs, now the Secretary for Schools and Colleges, to the ministers and churches should have a thoughtful and sympathetic reading. Advancing in many ways, our beloved Church has been backward, not in educational work, but in organized and unified plans. A great and urgent work awaits the efforts of the Executive Committee now located in Atlanta and its eminently qualified Secretary. On the third Sabbath in September our churches are asked to make such a contribution to this cause as will set on its feet this important work, and enable the Secretary to make a beginning.

"No, I'm not a Presbyterian," said a gentleman to the pastor, who had noticed the stranger and had greeted him. "I should have been. My parents were, and I never had a thought that I would not follow in their footsteps. But it was this way. When I began to read, my people were not taking any religious paper. I used to go to a neighbor's who were Methodists and borrow their Christian Advocate. I got interested in the religious affairs of the Methodist Church, attended its services rather than my parents' church, and as a result I united with the Methodist Church. That was twenty years ago." The incident needs no comment—except this: That the family which has need of this lesson will never see this paragraph unless some one of our readers will carry it and read it to them.